some time due to heavy congestion in the New York area resulting in higher consumption of fuel. Following the suggestion of the Flight Despatcher at New York, the Commander had decided to divert to Toronto because of the availability of maintenance facility at that airport. The aircraft landed safely at Toronto.

(b) A Departmental Inquiry has been held into the incident. The Commander has been suitably briefed for future guidance and has been given route checks on London/New York sector. Guidance has also been given to Commanders based at London.

Talks with leaders of the Assam Movement

*53. SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in the talks with the leaders of the Assam movement on the issue of foreign nationals·

(b) whether any deadline has been fixed to resolve the issue; and

(c) if not, what are the main points on which differences have arisen and the different stands taken by Government and the movement leaders?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Considerable ground has been covered during the current series of discussions between the representatives of the Government and the agitation leaders. Government are hopeful that solutions acceptable to all concerned will be found at an early date.

Visit by the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany

*54. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany recently visited India; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During his meetings with Indian leaders, the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany exchanged views on matters covering bilateral and international relations. It is hoped that as a result of this visit a fresh impetus will be given to bilateral economic and political relations and there will be a better mutual appreciation of our perceptions of international issues.

Compensation to the next of Kin of Victims of Violence and Military Action in Punjab

*55. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:
DR. H. P. SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to pay Rs. 20000 to the next of kin of each victim of agitation and military action in Punjab;

(b) whether those killed in operation Blue Star are included therein; and

(c) what steps have been taken for the early implementation of the decision?